



BOROUGH OF WATFORD

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# Annual Report

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1965

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W. A L C O C K

M.B., Ch.B., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

K. H. M A R S D E N

F.A.P.H.I.

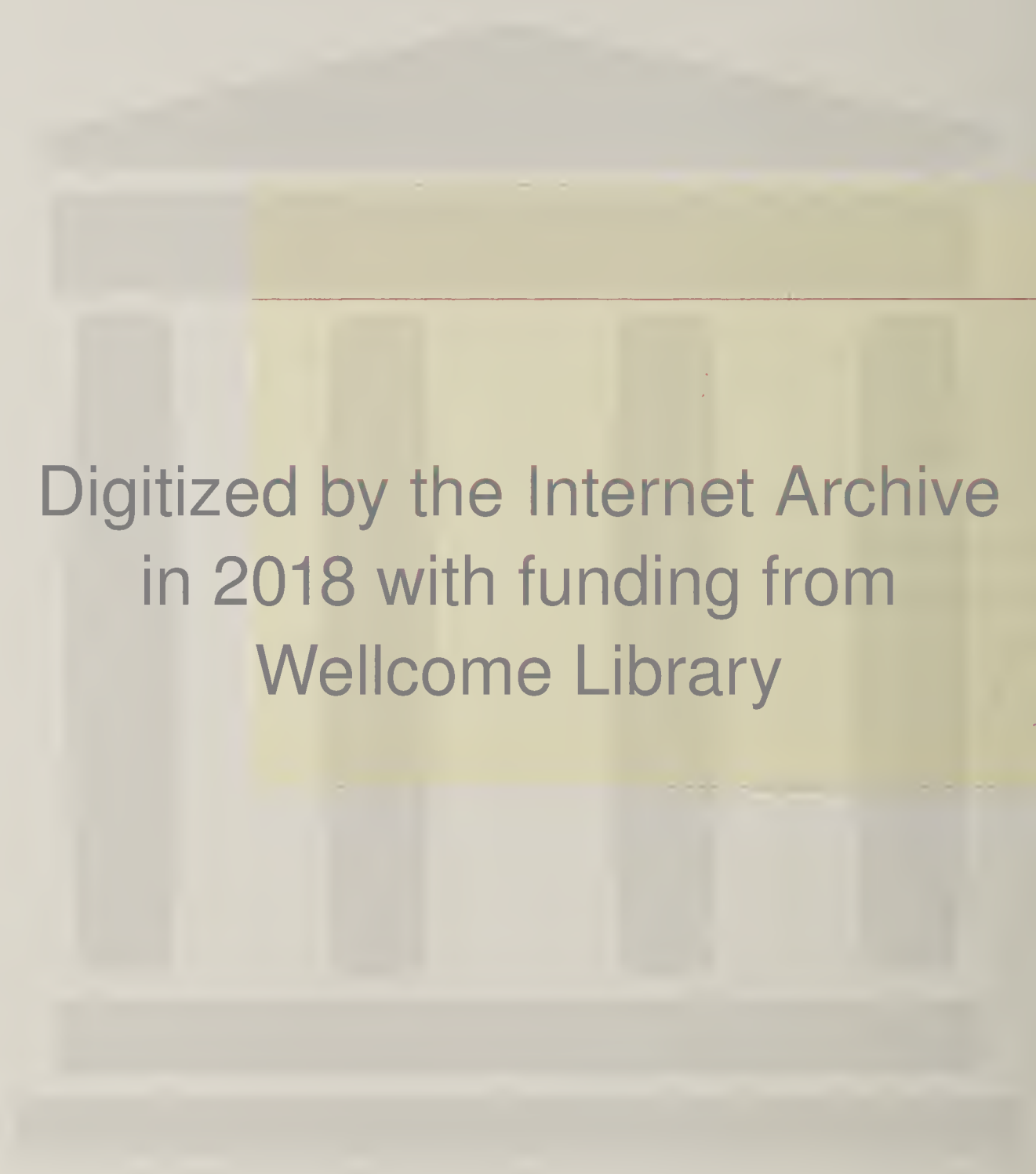
Chief Public Health Inspector



M.O.H. Watford A/Rpt 1965

Dr. Ring C421. - 3 FEB 1967

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BOROUGH OF WATFORD

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE

1964 - 1965

Chairman :

Alderman F. Mackenzie

Vice-Chairman

Councillor C. F. W. Johnson

Members :

Alderman A. Reynolds, J. P. (Mayor)

Alderman G. W. Knox (Deputy Mayor)

Alderman Mrs. M. Higgins

Alderman H. W. C. Lodder, J. P.

Councillor C. Braybrooke

Councillor J. P. Cook

Councillors Mrs. H. M. Dodd

Councillor Mrs. M. E. Edwards

Councillor R. S. Horner

Councillor J. S. Oliver

Councillor K. F. Reynolds

Councillor A. L. Robinson.

Councillor Dr. P. W. Roe

Councillor J. R. Rourke

Councillor Miss. D. M. Scawen

Councillor P. A. Wilson

1965 - 1966

Chairman:

Alderman F. Mackenzie

Vice-Chairman

Councillor Dr. P. W. Roe.

Members :

Councillor L. C. Wright, J. P. (Mayor)

Alderman A. Reynolds, J. P. (Deputy Mayor)

Alderman Mrs. M. Higgins

Alderman H. W. C. Lodder, J. P.

Councillor C. T. Bell

Councillor G. R. Berry

Councillor C. Braybrooke

Councillor Mrs H. M. Dodd

Councillor J. Evett

Councillor R. S. Horner

Councillor C. F. W. Johnson

Councillor J. S. Oliver

Councillor A. L. Robinson, J. P.

Councillor J. R. Rourke

Councillor Miss D. M. Scawen

### STAFF

#### Medical Officer of Health :

William Alcock, M. B. , Ch. B. B. Hy., D. P. H.  
Public Health Department, Town Hall, Watford.  
Phone Watford 26400.

#### Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

John Sleigh, M. B. , Ch. B. , D. P. H.

#### Chief Public Health Inspector:

K. H. Marsden, F. A. P. H. I. , 1, 3, 4, 5,

#### Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

G. F. Willcox, M. A. P. H. I. , 1, 3, 4, 5.

#### District Public Health Inspectors :

Enoch Ellerington, D. P. A. , F. A. P. H. I. , 1, 3, 4, 5,  
(resigned 31st May, 1965)

J. L. Willoughby, 1, 3, 4, 5,

T. B. Rosamond, 1, 3, 4.

D. C. Cahill, M. A. P. H. I. , 1, 3, 5.

Malcolm MacDonald, M. A. P. H. I. , 1, 3.  
(resigned 5th July, 1965)

W. S. Biggins, M. A. P. H. I. , 1, 3, 6,  
(appointed 5th July, 1965)

Ronald Watkins, M. A. P. H. I. , 2.  
(appointed 13th September, 1965)

#### Specialist Public Health Meat Inspector :

David Mitchell, 1, 3.

#### Authorised Meat Inspectors:

J. L. Mackenzie, 1, 3, 7.

Brian Christie  
(appointed 20th September, 1965)

#### Student Public Health Inspectors :

G. J. A. Woolfe

Simon Bissell

#### Chief Clerk:

Mary Sherlock

#### Senior Clerk:

Marion Johnson

#### Clerks:

Margaret Pirouet (resigned 1st January, 1965)

Anne Arnold (resigned 18th April, 1965)

Mavis Tilbury.

Doreen Roberts (appointed 29th March, 1965)

Celia Beauchamp (appointed 26th April, 1965)

#### Organiser, Workroom for the Elderly:

Captain T. B. Littlechild.

1. Certificate, Royal Society of Health and Public Health Inspectors Joint Board.
2. Diploma, Public Health Inspectors Examination Board.
3. Meat and other Foods Certificate, Royal Society of Health.
4. Certificate in Sanitary Science Royal Society of Health.
5. Diploma in Smoke Inspection, Royal Society of Health.
6. Testamur of the Institute of Public Cleansing.
7. Higher Certificate of the Institute of Meat.



BOROUGH OF WATFORD

Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
WATFORD.

September, 1966.

TO THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1965.

Principal Vital Statistics

The birth rate has maintained the upward trend of the last few years. It is, in fact, the highest rate since 1922.

The infant mortality rate has increased slightly. Factors influencing this are reviewed in the body of the report. The general death rate has fallen. There were no maternal deaths.

Infectious and other diseases

The incidence of the common infectious diseases was light. The somewhat larger number of cases of measles, compared with the previous year, is no more than a reflection of the biennial trend of incidence which measles regularly displays. The incidence of food poisoning was low. Your Public Health Inspectors are assiduous in their efforts to control and supervise the work of catering establishments, and to them and to caterers, credit is due for the generally high standards of hygiene maintained in the Borough.

Deaths from lung cancer have again moved upwards and the death rate is higher than that for England and Wales. In 1965, 26,000 persons died of this disease and the number mounts annually by approximately 1,000. This grievous toll in human lives will be checked and reversed when the community as a whole drastically reduces its consumption of tobacco. Only one section of the community has done this so far - doctors.

The death rate from cancer other than lung cancer remains very steady. Other things being equal, one would expect the death rate to rise proportionately with the increased numbers of elderly people in the community. That it is not doing so must be attributed to improved methods of treatment which are keeping cancer patients alive.

Fluoridation

Fluoridation of the public water supplies has been maintained continuously since May 1956 and routine tests are carried out on the fluoride content of the supply as indicated in the Report of the Water Engineer.

In May 1963 a Writ was issued against the Corporation to restrain them from adding fluoride to the water supply. On June 30th, 1965, the Writ was withdrawn, no doubt in the light of two important Judgements, one in the Dublin High Court and the other the decision in the case against the Corporation of Lower Hutt, New Zealand. The

Judge's summing-up in the Dublin case clearly emphasised the essential safety of fluoridation as a public health measure and the New Zealand case introduced some common sense into arguments as to what constitutes "pure" water and "wholesome" water and went a long way to clarify the right of an authority to add fluoride salts to its drinking water.

### Clean Air

We are continuing to make progress in our campaign to rid our atmosphere of objectionable pollutants. Progress has been held up from time to time, however, largely due to uncertainties about the availability of supplies of smokeless fuel, but as will be seen from a perusal of the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, the prospect for the future seems brighter.

### Workroom for the Elderly

This venture commenced in July, 1964. The aim of such Workrooms is to provide facilities for elderly retired men and women to enable them to undertake light assembly work under congenial conditions. Unfortunately the numbers attending the workroom have been small so far.

### Acknowledgements

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Council, especially the Chairman and members of the Public Health and Water Supply Committee, for the support they have given me during the year. I am also grateful to all members of the departmental staff for the hard work they have carried out during a very busy year.

I have the honour to be  
Your obedient Servant.

W. ALCOCK.  
Medical Officer of Health,



SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

	1964	1965
Area in acres	5,275	5,275
Registrar General's estimate of home population mid year	76,340	76,470
Number of inhabited houses (end of year) according to rate books.	24,800	24,581
Rateable Value	£5,629,567	£5,666,700
Sum represented by a penny rate	£ 22,750	£ 23,550
Live Births:		
Number	1,474	1,518
Rate per 1,000 population	19.3.	19.9
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	7.5.	8.2.
Stillbirths :		
Number	20	24
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	13.4.	15.6.
Total live and still births	1,494	1,542
Infant deaths (deaths under one year)	29	30
Infant mortality rates :		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	19.7.	19.8.
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	19.8	19.4.
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	18.0.	24.2.
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)	15.6.	15.8.
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births)	13.6.	13.8.
Peri-natal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births)	26.8.	29.2.
Maternal mortality (including abortions):		
Number of deaths	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	0.0.	0.0.
Deaths :		
Number	845	833
Rate per 1,000 population	11.1.	10.9.

## POPULATION

Watford's population showed an increase of 130 during the year from 76,340 to 76,470 according to the Registrar General's estimate. Births were 1,518 as compared with 1,474 for the previous year, and deaths 833 as compared with 845, so that the natural increase of births over deaths was 685 as compared with the estimated increase of 130. Emigration must therefore have amounted to 555. There is a considerable amount of emigration from Watford. Since 1961 births have totalled 7,073 and deaths 4,311, a natural increase of 2,762, although the population has increased in the same period only from 75,000 to 76,470, an increase of 1,470. Emigration during the same period therefore has totalled 1,292. By contrast, between 1951 and 1960 births totalled 17,786 and deaths 12,557, a natural increase of 2,467, and the population increased in the same period from 72,700 to 75,000, an increase of 2,300.

### BIRTHS, STILLBIRTHS AND INFANT DEATHS

#### Live Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	713	681	1,394
Illegitimate	67	57	124
Total	780	738	1,518

#### Still Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	13	9	22
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Total	14	10	24

#### Deaths of Infants under One year of Age

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	19	8	27
Illegitimate	1	2	3
Total	20	10	30

#### Deaths of Infants under Four Week of Age

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	15	6	21
Illegitimate	1	2	3
Total	16	8	24

#### Deaths of Infants under One Week of Age

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	13	6	19
Illegitimate	-	2	2
Total	13	8	21

### BIRTHS

Watford's births for the year were 1,518 as compared with 1,474 for the previous year and representing a rate of 19.9. as compared with 19.3. The area comparability factor by which Watford's rate has to be multiplied to make it comparable with that for England and Wales is 0.98 which indicates that at the child-bearing ages Watford has slightly more population proportionately than England and Wales. When multiplied by this factor, Watford's birth rate is 19.5. as compared with a provisional birth rate for England and Wales for 1965 of 18.0.

### STILL BIRTHS

Watford's still births for the year were 24 as compared with 20 for the previous year and representing a rate of 15.6. as compared with 13.4. The provisional still birth rate for England and Wales for 1965 is 15.7.

### INFANT DEATHS

Watford's infant deaths for the year were 30 as compared with 29 for the previous year and representing a rate of 19.8 as compared with 19.7. The provisional infant death rate for England and Wales for 1965 is 19.0.

### DISCUSSION OF STILL BIRTHS AND INFANT DEATHS

The thirty infant deaths listed according to the International Classification of Diseases and divided by sex and into Under 1 week, 1 - 4 weeks and 1 - 12 months are shown in the following table:-

CAUSE OF DEATH IN INFANTS

	Under 1 week		1-4 weeks		1-12 months		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Broncho- pneumonia						1		1
Primary atypical pneumonia					1		1	
Acute bronchitis						1		1
Gastritis and Duodenitis					1		1	
Congenital malformations of circulatory system	1						1	
Congenital malformations of digestive system		1			1		1	1
Other and unspecified congenital malformations	3						3	
Intracranial and spinal injury at birth	2	1					2	1
Post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis	2						2	
Pneumonia of newborn			1				1	
Ill-defined diseases peculiar to early infancy	2	3					2	3
Immaturity unqualified	2	3	2				4	3
Other motor vehicle traffic accident	1						1	
Foreign body in pharynx and larynx					1		1	
	13	8	3	0	4	2	20	10



It will be seen that the main causes of death, other than congenital malformations and ill-defined diseases peculiar to early infancy, are intracranial and spinal injuries at birth (3 deaths), post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis (2 deaths) and immaturity unqualified (7 deaths). Intracranial and spinal injuries at birth and post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis are more likely to be found among immature babies, which reinforces the importance of immaturity as a cause of death, and they are also more likely to be found where the birth has been difficult, by reason of small pelvic diameter in the mother or of wrong presentation of the child. The first two points which arise therefore are the importance of better facilities for rest for the mother from the 32nd to the 36th week of pregnancy which might do much to reduce the number of births of immature babies, and the importance of good antenatal care by which small pelvic diameter might be ascertained and hospital admission for confinement arranged, and by which wrong presentation might be ascertained and corrected.

The 94 births of babies of 5 lb. 8 oz and under, the 40 births of twins, the 24 stillbirths, the 21 deaths of babies aged under one week, and the three deaths of babies aged 1-4 weeks, are brought together in the following table. These categories overlap, and any baby coming into more than one category is shown in each.

Prematurity, Twins, Stillbirths, and Infant Deaths.

94 - 5 lb. 8 oz. and under	1 stillbirth
2 - 2lb. 3oz. and under	1 death 0-1 week
10- 2lb. 4 oz. to 3lb. 4 oz.	2 twins
	3 stillbirths
	2 deaths 0-1 week
	2 deaths 1-4 weeks
21-3lb. 5 oz. to 4lb. 6oz.	6 twins
	2 stillbirths
	3 deaths 0-1 week
20-4lb. 7 oz. to 4lb. 15 oz.	6 twins
	1 stillbirth
	2 deaths 0-1 week
41-5lb. to 5lb. 8 oz	3 twins
	3 stillbirths
	1 death 0-1 week
40-twins	
2-2lb. 4 oz. to 3lb. 4 oz.	
6 - 3lb. 5 oz. to 4lb. 6 oz.	
6-4lb. 7 oz. to 4lb. 15 oz.	
3-5lb. to 5lb. 8 oz	
23-5lb. 9 oz. and over	2 stillbirths
24 stillbirths	
1-2lb. 3 oz. and under	
3-2lb. 4 oz. to 3lb. 4 oz.	
2 - 3lb. 5 oz. to 4lb. 6. oz.	
1-4lb. 7 oz. to 4lb. 15 oz	
3-5lb. to 5lb. 8 oz.	
14-5lb. 9 oz. and over	2 twins

21 deaths under  
1 week      1 -2lb. 3 oz. and under  
              2-2lb. 4 oz. to  
              3lb. 4 oz.  
              3-3lb. 5 oz. to  
              4lb. 6 oz.  
              2-4lb. 7 oz. to  
              4lb. 15 oz.  
              1-5lb. to 5lb. 8 oz.  
              12-5lb. 9 oz. and over

3 deaths 1-4  
weeks      2-2lb. 4 oz. to  
              3lb. 4 oz.  
              1-5lb. 9oz. and over

Here again, the importance of low birth weight as a cause of infant mortality is clearly shown. If the stillbirths and neo-natal deaths are grouped according to birth weight, and stillbirth rates and neo-natal death rates for each group are calculated, the results obtained are as shown on the following table :-

STILLBIRTHS AND NEO-NATAL DEATHS GROUPED ACCORDING TO BIRTH WEIGHT

	2lb 3 oz and under	2lb 4 oz to 3lb 4oz	3lb 5oz to 4lb 6 oz	4lb 7 oz to 4 lb 15 oz	5 lb to 5lb 8 oz	5lb 9oz and over	All weights
Live and stillbirths	2	10	21	20	41	1,448	1,542
Stillbirths	1	3	2	1	3	14	24
Stillbirth rate	500.0	333.3	95.2	50.0	73.2.	9.7.	15.6
Live births	1	7	19	19	38	1,434	1,518
Neo-natal deaths	1	4	3	2	1	13	24
Neo-natal death rate	1,000.0	571.4	157.9	105.3	26.3	9.1	15.8

The regular and very large increase in stillbirth rate and neo-natal death rate corresponding to the fall in the birth weight is most clearly shown.

The other feature that appears from the main table is the importance of twin pregnancy as a cause of infant mortality. This is as would be expected. Apart from the two stillbirths which occurred among twins, twins are likely to be smaller than average and so are more likely to die of immaturity, and they are more likely to die of intracranial and spinal injury at birth and post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis, because of the greater



incidence of immaturity among twins and because of the greater likelihood of difficult birth as a result of wrong presentation among twins. The third point which arises therefore is the importance of correct diagnosis of twin pregnancy followed by hospital admission for confinement

The same babies are brought together in the following table, which shows how many in each group were first, second, third, fourth, and later babies, and in brackets how many in each group would have been first, second, third, fourth and later babies, if they had been distributed according to the proportions given in the Registrar General's Statistical Review of England and Wales for 1963.

Prematurity Twins, Stillbirths and Infant Deaths Grouped by Parity

	1st Pregnancy	2nd Pregnancy	3rd Pregnancy	4th Pregnancy	4th + Pregnancy
94 - 5lb 8 oz and under					
2-21b 3 oz and under	0 (0.7)	1 (0.6)	0 (0.3)	1 (0.2)	0 (0.2)
10-21b 4 oz to 31b 4 oz	5 (3.6)	2 (3.1)	1 (1.7)	0 (0.8)	2 (0.8)
21-31b 5 oz to 41b 6 oz	7 (7.6)	4 (6.5)	4 (3.5)	4 (1.7)	2 (1.7)
20-41b 7 oz to 41b 15 oz	6 (7.2)	4 (6.2)	4 (3.3)	0 (1.6)	6 (1.7)
41-51b to 51b 8 oz	12 (14.8)	17 (12.7)	6 (6.8)	0 (3.3)	6 (3.4)
40 twins	8 (14.5)	8 (12.3)	10 (6.7)	6 (3.2)	8 (3.3)
24 stillbirths	8 (8.7)	6 (7.4)	5 (4.0)	1 (1.9)	4 (2.0)
21 deaths 0-1 week	5 (7.6)	7 (6.5)	5 (3.5)	1 (1.7)	3 (1.7)
3 deaths 1-4 weeks	3 (1.1)	0 (0.9)	0 (0.5)	0 (0.2)	0 (0.3)

The numbers in each group are too small to exclude variations produced by chance, and this is illustrated by the divergence between the actual and the expected figures for twins, which figures, if the numbers had been large enough, shown have shown a large degree of correspondence. However, leaving out the figures for twins, which for the reason just given cannot be of importance, the figures do show that these conditions are considerably more common among fifth and later babies than might have been expected if they had been proportionately distributed. This experience is made clearer in the following table where the numbers are effectively increased by the combination of the five categories of premature babies and the two categories of babies dying after birth :-

Prematurity, Stillbirths, and Infant Deaths grouped by parity

	1st Pregnancy	2nd Pregnancy	3rd Pregnancy	4th Pregnancy	4th+ Pregnancy
94 - 5lb 8 oz and under	30 (34.0)	28 (29.0)	15 (15.6)	5 (7.6)	16 (7.8)
24 stillbirths	8 (8.7)	6 (7.4)	5 (4.0)	1 (1.9)	4 (2.0)
24 deaths 0-4 weeks	8 (8.7)	7 (7.4)	5 (4.0)	1 (1.9)	3 (2.0)

The fourth point which arises therefore is that mothers of fifth and later babies should be admitted to hospital for confinement.

## DEATHS

Watford's deaths for the year were 833 as compared with 845 for the previous year and representing a rate of 10.9 as compared with 11.1. The area comparability factor by which Watford's rate has to be multiplied to make it comparable with that for England and Wales is 0.95, which indicates that at the older ages Watford has rather more population proportionately than England and Wales. When multiplied by this factor Watford's death rate is 10.4 as compared with a provisional death rate for England and Wales for 1965 of 11.5.

## DISCUSSION OF DEATHS

The 833 deaths listed according to the abbreviated list of the International Classification of Diseases, and divided by sex, and by age into eleven age groups, are shown in the following table. It will be seen that the main causes of death are cancer, which was responsible for 188 deaths or 22.6% of the total, coronary heart disease, which was responsible for 164 deaths, or 19.7% of the total, vascular lesions of the nervous system, which were responsible for 93 deaths, or 11.2% of the total, and heart disease other than coronary and hypertensive heart disease, which was responsible for 71 deaths, or 8.5% of the total. These four causes were responsible for 516 deaths or 61.9% of the total.

Lung cancer is almost entirely preventable by not taking up smoking and very considerably reduced by giving it up. Cancer of the neck of the womb can be prevented by regular microscopic examination of smears of mucosal tissue obtained by scraping, followed by the appropriate treatment where these show the presence of precancerous state, as this form of cancer remains in a precancerous state for a number of years. The Local Health Authority would be happy to co-operate in obtaining such smears at ante-natal clinics from expectant mothers who are in the population at risk, or to set up clinics for the purpose, but the Regional Hospital Board has not yet provided the necessary laboratory facilities for the examination of these smears, although it is considered that this would be money well spent.

Coronary heart disease and vascular lesions of the nervous system all come under the general category of degenerative vascular disease, and evidence is steadily accumulating that the increase in degenerative vascular disease in privileged western communities is due to excess consumption of carbohydrate and animal and dairy fat.

Heart disease other than coronary and hypertensive heart disease consists largely of degenerative heart disease with rheumatic heart disease as the next most important component. Most of degenerative heart disease is old age (40 of the 71 deaths from other heart disease or 56.3% were in persons aged 75 and over) and nothing can be done about preventing old age. However, the Registrar General frowns on old age as a cause of death on a death certificate and the importance of heart disease other than coronary disease is exaggerated as a result. Rheumatic heart disease is prevented by permanent prophylactic treatment with penicillin or sulphonamide of all who have had rheumatic fever.

Cause of death	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 weeks				Age in years						
			Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75+
Tuberculosis, respiratory	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, other	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping cough	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	6	3
	F	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	15	15	7
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	4	5	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	5	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	M	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	9	8	12
	F	45	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	6	14	10	13

Cause of death	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 weeks and under 1 year		Age in years								
			4 weeks	1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75+
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Diabetes	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	M	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	8	4	13
	F	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	7	17	40
Coronary disease, angina	M	109	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	8	36	23	40
	F	55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	12	36
Hypertension with heart disease	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	5
	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	3
Other heart disease	M	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	7	8	16
	F	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	8	24
Other circulatory disease	M	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	2	6
	F	16	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	3	9
Influenza	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	M	27	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	16
	F	24	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	8	12
Bronchitis	M	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	10	6
	F	14	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	11
Other diseases of respiratory system	M	10	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	4
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	M	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pregnancy , childbirth, abortion	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



D E A T H S 1 9 6 5 (Continued)

Cause of death	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 weeks		1- year	Age in years							
			4 weeks	4 weeks and under		5- 15	15- 25	25- 35	35- 45	45- 55	55- 65	65- 75+	
Congenital malformations	M	3	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
	F	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	M	31	11	1	1	1	-	-	1	7	2	7	
	F	49	6	-	-	1	-	3	3	6	5	25	
Motor vehicle accidents	M	12	1	-	-	5	-	-	2	1	3	-	
	F	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	2	
All other accidents	M	11	-	1	-	1	2	2	-	-	1	3	
	F	17	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	4	10	
Suicide	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	
	F	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	
Homicide and operations of war	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total of all causes	M	433	16	4	2	1	7	4	9	33	112	99	146
	F	400	8	2	2	-	3	3	10	21	57	96	198

BIRTHS, STILLBIRTHS; INFANT DEATHS; MATERNAL DEATHS AND DEATHS  
WATFORD AND ENGLAND AND WALES 1950-65.

The following table may be of interest as permitting a comparison to be made of these statistics between Watford and England and Wales. The birth rate for England and Wales fell at the beginning of the period and then rose again, whereas that for Watford rose steadily over the period, so that at the end of the period the rate for Watford, which had been lower than that for England and Wales at the beginning of the period, was now higher. The stillbirth rate for both England and Wales and Watford fell over the period, but the fall over the period was less for Watford than for England and Wales, so that at the end of the period the rate for Watford, which had been lower than that for England and Wales at the beginning of the period, was now the same. The infant death rate for England and Wales fell over the period, whereas that for Watford fell at the beginning of the period then rose again, so that at the end of the period, the rate for Watford, which had been lower than that for England and Wales at the beginning of the period, was now higher. It is however largely chance whether a feeble baby dies just before birth or just after birth, and if the stillbirth rate and infant death rate are taken together, there is no significant increase in infant mortality, the average for stillbirth rate and infant death rate together for 1963-65 being 34.0 as compared with the lowest figure for any three year period of 32.8 for 1960-62 (the figure of 30.7 for 1959-61 being distorted by the freak infant death rate figure of 7.8 for 1959). The maternal death rate for England and Wales fell steadily over the period but in the case of Watford the numbers are too small to be of any significance. The death rate for both England and Wales and Watford remained almost stationary over the period, but this figure represents an increase in the expectation of life of women accompanied by a decrease in the expectation of life of men, due largely to the great increase in the number of deaths from lung cancer.



YEARS 1950 - 65

Births			Stillbirths			Infant Deaths			Maternal Deaths			Deaths		
Watford		E & W	Watford		E & W	Watford		E & W	Watford		E & W	Watford		E & W
No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate
50 1038	13.9	15.9	21	19.8	22.6	24	23.1	29.6	0	0.00	0.86	802	10.8	11.6
51 1017	14.0	15.5	30	28.7	23.0	19	18.7	29.7	0	0.00	0.75	827	11.4	12.5
52 1033	14.1	15.3	26	24.6	22.7	26	25.2	27.6	0	0.00	0.67	819	11.1	11.3
53 966	13.3	15.5	18	18.6	22.4	25	25.9	26.8	3	3.05	0.71	864	11.9	11.4
54 1018	14.0	15.2	21	20.2	23.5	19	18.7	25.4	3	2.89	0.65	758	10.5	11.3
55 1045	14.4	15.0	13	12.3	23.2	14	13.4	24.9	0	0.00	0.60	836	11.5	11.7
56 1079	14.9	15.7	30	27.1	22.9	15	13.9	23.7	0	0.00	0.52	807	11.1	11.7
57 1078	14.8	16.1	16	14.6	22.5	29	26.9	23.1	0	0.00	0.45	800	11.0	11.5
58 1088	14.8	16.4	27	24.2	21.5	20	18.4	22.5	0	0.00	0.43	884	12.1	11.7
59 1157	15.7	16.5	25	21.2	20.8	9	7.8	22.2	0	0.00	0.38	870	11.8	11.6
60 1232	16.6	17.2	22	17.5	19.8	19	15.2	21.8	0	0.00	0.39	781	10.5	11.5
61 1329	17.7	17.6	22	16.3	19.0	19	14.3	21.4	4	2.96	0.34	865	11.5	11.9
62 1353	17.9	18.0	24	17.4	18.1	24	17.6	21.7	0	0.00	0.35	859	11.4	11.9
63 1399	18.5	18.2	23	16.2	17.2	24	17.2	21.1	1	0.70	0.28	909	12.0	12.2
64 1474	19.3	18.5	20	13.4	16.3	29	19.7	19.9	0	0.00	0.26	845	11.1	11.3
65 1518	19.9	18.0	24	15.6	15.7	30	19.8	19.0	0	0.00	0.25	833	10.9	11.5

LUNG CANCER, OTHER CANCER, CEREBRO-VASCULAR DISEASE, CARDIO VASCULAR DISEASE  
AND OTHER CARDIAC DISEASE  
WATFORD AND ENGLAND AND WALES 1950-65

The following table may be of interest as permitting a comparison to be made for these statistics between Watford and England and Wales. The lung cancer death rate for both England and Wales and Watford rose steadily over the period and was twice as high at the end of the period as it had been at the beginning. On the other hand, the death rate for other cancer for both England and Wales and Watford remained remarkably steady over the period. If cancer is due to hereditary susceptibility and is activated by environmental influences, it is suggested that the environmental influences have remained constant for other cancer but have changed for lung cancer and the most obvious one is increased consumption of tobacco. The chance of dying of other cancer is one in six. The chance of dying of lung cancer is one in twenty. Almost all of the deaths from lung cancer occur among the part of the population that smokes a medium or large amount. So while the chance of dying of cancer among the part of the population that does not smoke or that smokes a small amount is one in six, the chance among the part of the population that smokes a medium or a large amount is one in four. The death rate for cerebro vascular disease for both England and Wales and Watford remained almost stationary over the period. The death rate for cardio vascular disease for both England and Wales and Watford rose steadily over the period, but the death rate for other cardiac disease for both England and Wales and Watford fell steadily over the period, and taking the two together for both England and Wales and Watford they remained almost stationary over the period. There is no obvious reason why the death rate for other cardiac diseases should have fallen, and it is suggested that the increase in the death rate for cardio vascular disease is as much a change in the practice of diagnosis as a true increase, deaths which used to be certified as due to myocardial degeneration now being certified as due to coronary disease.

YEARS 1950 - 65

	Lung Cancer			Other Cancer			Cerebro-Vascular Disease			Cardio-Vascular Disease			Other Cardiac Disease		
	Watford		E & W	Watford		E & W	Watford		E & W	Watford		E & W	Watford		E & W
	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate
1950	26	0.35	0.28	122	1.64	1.67	106	1.43	1.48	86	1.16	1.25	102	1.37	2.21
1951	20	0.28	0.30	103	1.42	1.66	112	1.54	1.56	89	1.22	1.33	123	1.69	2.34
1952	27	0.37	0.32	118	1.61	1.67	97	1.33	1.58	107	1.46	1.40	153	2.09	2.00
1953	26	0.36	0.34	112	1.54	1.65	106	1.46	1.54	124	1.71	1.42	134	1.85	1.93
1954	19	0.26	0.37	121	1.67	1.67	97	1.34	1.63	116	1.60	1.53	130	1.79	1.87
1955	33	0.46	0.39	116	1.60	1.67	116	1.60	1.67	138	1.91	1.61	138	1.91	1.88
1956	21	0.29	0.41	125	1.72	1.67	126	1.74	1.67	126	1.74	1.70	132	1.82	1.82
1957	37	0.50	0.42	138	1.88	1.67	91	1.24	1.64	114	1.55	1.72	124	1.69	1.70
1958	42	0.57	0.44	146	1.99	1.68	101	1.46	1.69	138	1.88	1.86	123	1.68	1.72
1959	35	0.47	0.46	140	1.90	1.68	113	1.53	1.66	128	1.73	1.87	91	1.23	1.58
1960	36	0.48	0.48	94	1.26	1.68	135	1.82	1.67	140	1.88	2.01	87	1.17	1.55
1961	50	0.67	0.49	127	1.69	1.67	130	1.73	1.67	172	2.29	2.07	91	1.21	1.57
1962	43	0.57	0.51	135	1.79	1.67	103	1.36	1.68	166	2.20	2.19	96	1.27	1.50
1963	49	0.65	0.52	117	1.54	1.66	119	1.57	1.71	196	2.59	2.29	87	1.15	1.47
1964	38	0.50	0.54	137	1.80	1.67	112	1.47	1.56	186	2.44	2.24	59	0.77	1.25
1965	48	0.63	0.55	140	1.83	1.67	93	1.22	1.64	164	2.15	2.38	71	0.93	1.23



SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES UNDER PART III NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT 1946

Section 22	Care of Mothers and Young Children
Section 23	Midwifery
Section 24.	Health Visiting
Section 25	Home Nursing
Section 26	Vaccination and Immunisation
Section 28	Prevention of Illness Care and After Care
Section 29	Domestic Help
Section 51	Mental Health

The provision of these services in Watford is the responsibility of Hertfordshire County Council as Local Health Authority. The Medical Officer of Health of Watford, in his capacity as Divisional Medical Officer for Hertfordshire County Council for South- West Hertfordshire, is responsible for the day-to-day administration of these services for Watford, and for Watford Rural District and Rickmansworth, Bushey and Chorleywood Urban Districts.

## SECTION C

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

#### Scarlet Fever

28 persons were notified as suffering from scarlet fever during the year. Scarlet fever to day is a mild illness and need give rise to no anxiety but it is not certain that the complications of scarlet fever, particularly rheumatic fever, with its sequel of rheumatic heart disease, and nephritis, are as diminished in importance as is the illness itself. It is still necessary to obtain medical advice in cases of scarlet fever and to carry out this advice.

#### Whooping Cough

36 persons were notified as suffering from whooping cough during the year. Whooping cough is the main cause of bronchiectasis (lung abscess) and one of the causes of bronchitis. It is preventable by immunisation and now that immunisation against whooping cough is given to babies along with immunisation against diphtheria it is hoped that the number of notifications will fall.

#### Acute Poliomyelitis

No notifications were received during the year.

#### Measles

1191 persons were notified as suffering from measles during the year. Almost every child gets measles, usually before he goes to school, and as it is not a serious condition it is impossible to see why it is notifiable. In contrast rheumatic fever, which is the cause of rheumatic heart disease, is not notifiable although 6296 people died of rheumatic heart disease in England & Wales in 1965.

#### Diphtheria

No notifications were received during the year.

#### Dysentery

6 persons were notified as suffering from dysentery during the year.

#### Meningococcal Infections

No notifications were received during the year.

#### Acute Pneumonia

7 persons were notified as suffering from acute pneumonia during the year.

#### Smallpox

No notifications were received during the year.

Acute Encephalitis

1 person was notified as suffering from acute encephalitis (post-infectious) during the year.

Typhoid Fever

No notifications were received during the year.

Paratyphoid Fever

No notifications were received during the year.

Erysipelas

4 persons were notified as suffering from erysipelas during the year.

Food Poisoning

7 persons were notified as suffering from food poisoning during the year.

Tuberculosis

34 persons were notified as suffering from tuberculosis during the year.

Puerperal Pyrexia

No notifications were received during the year.

Ophthalmia neonatorum

No notifications were received during the year.

Anthrax

No notifications were received during the year.

Infectious Hepatitis

10 persons were notified as suffering from infectious hepatitis during the year.

There follows a table of infectious and other notifiable diseases notified during the year.



INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles ( excluding rubella)		Diphtheria		Dysentery		Meningo- coccal infection		
					Paralytic		Non- Paralytic										
					M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
Under 1 year																	
1 year		1	1						12	24			1				
2 years	1	1	4	2					61	75							
3 years	2	1	1	3					85	61							
4 years	1		2	1					96	85							
5 - 9 years	9	8	6	9					78	91					1	1	
10-14 years	2			3					270	220					1	1	
15-24 years	2			1					7	9							
25 and over										1					2		
Age unknown									2	5							
									8	1							
Total	17	11	15	21					619	512			2		4		

	Ac Pneumonia		Smallpox		Acute encephalitis			Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fever		Erysipelas		Food poisoning	
					Infective		Post- infectious								
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
Under 5 years															
5 - 14 years	1	2					1						4		
15 - 44 years		2										3			
45 - 64 years		1										1			
65 and over															
Age unknown															
Total	2	5					1					4		5	

## Tuberculosis

## Other notifiable diseases.

	Respiratory		Meninges & C. N. S.		Other	
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 4 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19 years	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24 years	5	4	-	1	-	-
25 - 34 years	2	3	-	-	-	-
35 - 44 years	4	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54 years	3	1	-	1	1	-
55 - 64 years	4	3	-	-	-	-
65 - 74 years	2	-	-	-	-	-
Total	20	11	-	2	1	1

	M		F		M		F	
Puerperal pyrexia								
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum								
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax								
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis								
7	3	7	3	7	3	7	3	3

## TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS 1950 - 65

The following table may of interest as permitting a review of the improvement in tuberculosis statistics over the period. All the statistics have improved, but some have improved more than others, and the difference in the experience of the sexes is also shown. The number of notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis dropped throughout the period, and was considerably lower in women than in men. On the other hand the number of notifications of non-pulmonary tuberculosis also dropped throughout the period, but was rather lower in men than in women. It is suggested that the excess in the number of notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis in men is due to their greater consumption of tobacco. The smaller excess in the smaller number of notifications of non-pulmonary tuberculosis in women is not considered significant. The number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis dropped throughout the period, and was lower in women than in men. On the other hand the number of deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis also dropped throughout the period, but was the same in both sexes. Not only was the number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis in men greater than the number in women throughout the period, but also a larger proportion of men notified as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis died from the disease than was the case in women. It is suggested that the excesses in the number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis in men, and in the number of deaths in relation to the number of notifications in men, are due to their great consumption of tobacco.

## Tuberculosis

Years 1950 - 65

Year	Notifications						Deaths									
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total	Rate	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total	Rate
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total		
1950	31	35	66	7	5	12	78	1.05	9	7	16		2	2	18	0.24
1951	59	38	97	4	5	9	106	1.46	7	7	14		1	2	16	0.22
1952	46	27	73	5	6	11	84	1.15	7	2	9		2	2	11	0.15
1953	41	38	79			2	81	1.12	12		12				12	0.17
1954	41	36	77	3	2	5	82	1.13	1	3	4				4	0.05
1955	48	26	74	5	2	7	81	1.12	5	1	6		1	1	7	0.10
1956	32	22	54	2	4	6	60	0.83	10	3	13		2	3	16	0.22
1957	60	32	92	2	4	6	98	1.34	6	2	8				8	0.10
1958	38	34	72	2	6	8	80	1.09	2		2				2	0.03
1959	47	28	75	2	3	5	80	1.08	1	2	3				3	0.04
1960	23	14	37	5	4	9	46	0.62	5	1	6		1	1	7	0.09
1961	20	18	38	5	1	6	44	0.59	4	2	6				6	0.08
1962	28	24	52		4	4	56	0.69	1		1				1	0.01
1963	27	22	49		2	2	51	0.67	1	2	3				3	0.04
1964	21	8	29	2	2	4	33	0.43	1	1	2		1	1	3	0.04
1965	20	11	31	2	1	3	34	0.44	3	2	5				5	0.07



## SECTION D

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### Report on the Water Supply.

Mr. J. R. Collins, C.Eng., M. I. C. E., M. I. W. E., M. R. S. H., The Borough Water Engineer and Manager, has kindly supplied the following information:-

1. The supply was satisfactory both in quality and quantity throughout the year.
2. 1,264.9 million gallons were supplied during the year averaging 3.466 million gallons per day and the supply on the maximum day (18th August, 1965) was 4.379 million gallons.
3. The population supplied was approximately 74,534 and the average consumption for domestic trade and industrial purposes was 46.68 gallons per head per day. 201 new supplies were connected during the year.
4. All water going into supply was softened to approximately 155 parts per million.
5. Fluoridation was continued at both pumping stations, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. The fluoride content of the supply was tested some 2,500 times and these test together with check samples taken independently by the Medical Officer of Health and tested by the Laboratory of the Government Chemist, confirmed that the treatment was maintained at the correct level of 1 part per million.
6. Sterilisation by super-chlorination and de-chlorination on all water supplied was carried out on the supplies from both pumping stations. Automatic sterilisation plant at The Grove Waterworks adjusts and records the sterilisation processes and gives an alarm if the pre-determined conditions are not maintained. Chlorine residual tests were taken at hourly intervals from the Watford Fields Pumping plant, at 4 hourly intervals on the Merryhill Reservoir supply, twice daily from the Paddock Road Reservoir supply, and twice daily from Abbots Langley Reservoir supply.
7. 159 bacteriological analyses have been made of the water drawn from various parts of the supply system, and of the raw and untreated water from both pumping stations and have indicated that the supply has at all times been of a satisfactory bacteriological quality.
8. Chemical analyses also indicated satisfactory chemical quality of the untreated and treated water. There was no plumbo-solvency.
9. A survey of water supplies to temporary dwellings within the water supply area revealed the following situation :-

Rear of 785 St Albans Road	Three vans on the site but only one occupied
Rear of 277 Horseshoe Lane.	Two occupied caravans.
Rear of 289 Sheepcot Lane.	Six caravans, five occupied, one burnt out (presumably to be occupied).
Rear of 275 Sheepcot Lane	Two permanent showmen on this site.

Rear of 106 High Road, Leavesden.	Two caravans (showmen)
Rear of 736 St. Albans Road.	None.
The Berkley, First Avenue.	None.
Holywell Housing Estate	Fourteen caravans.
Rear of 82 High Road, Leavesden.	One caravan (Mr. Kimpton).
Cardiff Road.	Three caravans for Holst, Car Park Contractors.

10. There was one permanent dwelling within the water supply area without a main water supply piped into the premises. This was "Rosevilla", North Orbital Road where a standpipe supply and flush W. C. were available.

#### WATFORD RAINFALL

The following table showing average monthly and annual rainfall over the last 41 years and monthly and annual rainfall for 1965, at the Water Department's Watford Fields Pumping Plant, may be of interest :

	<u>41 years average.</u>	<u>1965</u>
January	2.30	2.39
February	1.69	0.41
March	1.34	1.92
April	1.92	2.12
May	2.05	1.74
June	1.92	3.02
July	2.51	3.55
August	2.30	2.31
September	2.31	3.65
October	2.49	0.89
November	2.93	2.75
December	<u>2.39</u>	<u>4.43</u>
	<u>26.15</u>	<u>29.23</u>

It will be seen that over the 41 year period the five driest months are February to June inclusive and the seven wettest months are July to January inclusive. The variations between the amounts of rainfall in the various months over the 41 year period are so wide that large alterations over a long period would be needed to cause much change in the present pattern.

Over a number of years it can safely be said that most Februaries will be comparatively dry and most Julies comparatively wet but no prognostications can be made for any one year. 1965 was an average year. Four months were drier than the 41 year average and eight were wetter and the total rainfall for the year (29.23 inches) was 111.8 per cent of the 41 year average (26.15 inches). In the first half of the year two months were drier than the 41 year average and four were wetter and the total rainfall for the first half of the year (11.60 inches) was 103.4 per cent of the 41 year average (11.22 inches). In the second half of the year two months were drier than the 41 year average and four were wetter and the total rainfall for the second



half of the year (17.63 inches) was 118.1 per cent of the 41-year average (14.93 inches). October had 1.60 inches less than the 41-year average (0.89 inches as against 2.49 inches) and February had 1.28 inches less than the 41-year average (0.41 inches as against 1.69 inches) but this was more than balanced by December which had 2.09 inches more than the 41-year average (4.48 inches as against 2.39 inches) and September which had 1.34 inches more than the 41-year average (3.65 inches as against 2.31 inches).

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT AMENDMENT ACT 1962

##### Workroom for the Elderly. Tudor Hall

The workroom at present employs twelve "old age pensioners" (two women and ten men) each afternoon from 1.30 p.m. to 4.0 p.m. No work in the morning is possible due to difficulties in heating the hall.

Each worker is paid 1/6d per hour, tea and biscuits are provided. Public transport fares within the Borough are refunded.

Most of the work done is obtained from local factories by the Organiser. Some of it is interesting and worthwhile, giving a good return financially. The work comprises simple assembly work, generally in plastic, and also producing medical requirements for veterinary use.

In addition to the above, members of the Rheumatism and Arthritis Association attend on a Tuesday afternoon. They may sometimes share in the general activities of the workroom or if this is not possible carry out simple pursuits such as sewing.

## REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The resignation of experienced officers disorganised the work of the department during the first nine months of the year. From January to the end of April the Senior Meat Inspectors appointment remained unfilled and it was necessary for one of the district Inspectors to undertake this full-time duty which reduced the number available for general duties and for relief work at the slaughterhouse. Two district inspectors resigned in mid-summer at a time when summer holidays and "time-off" for week-end meat inspection work were imposing a strain on the department. We continued to work under pressure until our full establishment of inspectors was restored in September.

The number of animals slaughtered in Watford continued to increase and the Council decided to appoint a second full time "Authorised Meat Inspector" who commenced work in September.

With the declaration of two housing improvement areas and the resumption of smoke control area work there was little opportunity to carry out routine inspections until the latter part of the year when first priority was given to food premises and to premises registered under the Shops, Offices and Railway Premises Act 1963.

Throughout the year there has been no relaxation in the surveillance of houses in multi-occupation which are an increasing problem in the Borough.

## HOUSING

### 2. CLEARANCE OF UNFIT HOUSES

The following unfit houses were demolished :

Nos. 29 & 31 High Road, Leavesden.

Nos. 69, 71 & 73 Sotheron Road.

Nos. 76 & 78 Merton Road.

Nos. 13a & 13b, Wells Yard.

Three houses were represented as being unfit for human habitation.

The Council made a demolition order on 93 High Road and a closing order on 54 Merton Road. A decision had not been reached on the third house at the end of the year.

### 3. REPAIR OF UNFIT HOUSES

During recent years there has been a much better standard of maintenance of rented houses in Watford by the owners and many of the houses have been sold for owner/occupation. The result has been a considerable reduction in the enforcement of repairs by the Council. Of the 88 houses that were made fit for human habitation as a result of action by the public health inspector, 66 were dealt with informally. Statutory action under the Public Health and Housing Acts resulted in the repair of the other 22.

#### IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSES

Applications for improvement grants are dealt with by the Borough Engineer; 52 standard and 34 discretionary grants were authorised of which 18 standard and 3 discretionary grants were in respect of rented houses.

After two years of efforts to persuade the owners of the unimproved houses in the two pilot improvement areas in the Borough to take advantage of the grants scheme the Council early in the year evaluated the progress that had been made. Although schemes were in course of preparation for the improvement of 42 of the 101 tenanted houses the disappointing fact was that in not one case had improvement works been commenced.

It was against this background that the Council decided to use their powers under the Housing Act 1964 to enforce the improvement of the tenanted houses, and in February 1965 the two pilot areas containing 101 and 94 houses were declared to be improvement areas. The procedure involved in giving effect to this decision is laborious and time consuming.

44 tenants were unwilling to have their houses improved mainly because elderly people are reluctant to suffer the upheaval of the building works and are no less reluctant to pay the increase in rent and rates which may be as much as 17/-d per week. "Suspended improvement notices" were served on the owners of these houses, but three of these were shortly afterwards superseded by "final improvement notices" when the tenants changed their minds.

In a last endeavour to secure the co-operation of the owners of the 46 houses occupied by tenants who wanted the specified improvement works carried out, the owners were invited to submit written undertakings to the Council. Where these are not forthcoming "immediate improvement notices" will be served.

The Council decided that improvement areas will also be made into smoke control areas.

The tenant of one house made representations under Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1964 with a view to the Council making his landlord improve the house.

#### OVERCROWDING AND HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS

Most of the overcrowding in Watford today is associated with houses in multiple occupation, the majority of which are occupied by immigrants. The Council have been seriously concerned about this overcrowding.

The service of three notices under Section 90 of the Housing Act 1957 and twelve directions under Section 19 of the Housing Act 1961 were authorised restricting the number of persons who could sleep or live in the houses. The Council also authorised the service of four notices concerning inadequate facilities in houses.

Legal proceedings were instituted against the occupiers of three houses for infringements of Section 90 notices limiting the number of persons who could sleep in the houses; fines



totalling £55. were imposed. Proceedings were also taken against the occupiers of eight houses for infringing directions made on the houses, fines amounting to £124.4.0d plus 26 gns. costs were imposed. The Council prosecuted three householders for failure to supply information concerning persons living in houses as required by notices served under Section 19 (9) of the Housing Act 1961.

In an effort to control the overcrowding of these houses it has been necessary to make a substantial number of inspections late at night.

6. RENT ACT, 1957

No certificates were issued or cancelled during the year.

7. CARAVANS

The town planning consents and the licences issued under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 are all for limited periods none extending beyond 1968. Whenever a caravan becomes vacant or is removed from a site it may not be reoccupied or replaced and there is, therefore, a continuing reduction in the number of residential caravans on the established sites within the Borough. In the five years since the Act became effective, the number of caravans has been reduced from 37 on 11 sites to 16 on 6 sites, two of these sites are also used by travelling showmen. A licence was granted to a contractor to place 12 caravans on land owned by the Council.

There has been little trouble during the year from itinerant caravan dwellers placing their caravans within the Borough, although adjoining Authorities have not been so fortunate.

8. FOOD HYGIENE

Staffing difficulties to which reference has previously been made resulted in a reduction of about 40% in inspections of food premises as compared with 1964. Very unsatisfactory conditions were found in a High Street restaurant. Dirt and dead flies were found on the walls of the dining room itself; behind the serving counter and in other parts of the premises were long-standing accumulations of filth up to one inch thick; in addition there were structural defects and other offences. The occupier was convicted of 17 offences under the Food Hygiene Regulations and quite heavy fines were imposed. A meat porter was also fined for smoking while handling meat. (Table XIV).

9. FOOD INSPECTION

a) Meat

Slaughtering again took place on many Sundays. On some occasions the number of animals killed was so few that it seemed to the Council unreasonable for an Inspector to be called out. They instructed the Town Clerk to make their views known to the slaughtering company and also referred the question to the Association of Municipal Corporations so that the possibility of control of slaughtering hours by local authorities might be further pursued. In reply, the Company said that they too disliked working on Sundays but were occasionally obliged to do so because of trade requirements. Revised regulations enabling local authorities to exercise



some control over slaughtering hours, are however, at the time of writing this report, expected,

Half yearly tables prepared for the Council showing the extent of disease in food animals at the slaughterhouse, for the first half of 1965, showed a marked increase over the corresponding period for 1964. (the annual figures show similar increases - TABLE IX), Members of the Council were concerned and asked for an explanation. Analysis of the figures showed that the difference was due to increased condemnations of organs principally due to parasitic infections, the incidence of which varied widely; that even the increased figures represented on average less than one pound weight of offal per animal slaughtered and that there had been no increase in disease transmissible to man. In these days of easily administered and effective anthelmintics it should not be necessary to condemn so many pig livers by reason of "milk spots".

The Management of the slaughterhouse also expressed concern at the number of pig lungs condemned; the proportion was indeed very high. Large numbers were found to have haemorrhagic congestion of the lung tissue and lymph nodes. Mr. Ian A. Cheyne, a veterinary surgeon on the staff of the Royal Veterinary College Field Station at North Mimms, readily agreed to assist in an investigation and he and Dr. Farkus, veterinary adviser to the slaughtering company, carried out both independent and joint investigations. Specimens were examined in the Field Station Laboratories and observations of the stunning and slaughtering processes made in the slaughterhouses, with subsequent examination of the lungs. Mr. Cheyne concluded that the high incidence of congestion was due to some factor in the system of slaughtering (possibly the stunning) and that the lungs ought not to be passed for human consumption since the congestion might mask more serious conditions. Dr. Farkus signified his complete agreement with this conclusion.

The Council continued to charge for meat inspection at the maximum rate but were able to make a refund to the slaughtering company of £685, in respect of the period September 1963 to March 1965. This sum was the difference between the fees charged in that period and the actual cost of the meat inspection service.

The Abattoir Manager has continued to permit students of meat inspection to gain practical experience in the Abattoir. Such facilities are very limited and local authorities over a wide area are indebted to him for the opportunity for their staff to receive the required training.

### Slaughterhouses

In July the small private slaughterhouse situated in New Road was acquired by the Council who wanted its use as a slaughterhouse to cease. It was first registered in 1853.

The statutory inspection of the Abattoir prior to licence renewal necessitated a report to the Council of defects of maintenance which had gradually accumulated since the previous renewal. The biggest job was the repainting of the steelwork and cleansing and redecoration of certain other parts and the Management decided to make this the occasion for complete redecoration of the whole of the premises together with other necessary repairs and renewals. The Council renewed the licence for only three months (i.e. until the end of the year) during which time they expected the owners to remedy the defects. This was done by confining slaughtering to Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays for a period of seven weeks so that Contractors might work on the other four days of the week.

During the year a new stainless steel offal inspection table of improved design was installed in the Abattoir.

### Slaughter of Animals Act

Twenty-seven licences to slaughter all classes of animals except horses were issued. Four licences restricted the holder to slaughtering only under the supervision of an experienced slaughterman.

### Diseases of Animals Acts

For the second consecutive year no notifiable disease was detected in the slaughterhouse.

#### b) Milk

All milk sold in the Borough is supplied either from a local dairy or by a large organisation retailing milk over a very wide area. A nearby farmer experimented with the sale of untreated milk from vending machines in two factories but this was discontinued during the year. All samples taken were satisfactory.

Two complaints of milk sold in dirty bottles were reported to the Council. They instructed warning letters to be sent to the respective dairies.

#### c) Ice Cream

Ice Cream was manufactured in four premises in Watford and in two of these the manufacture consisted only of passing prepared mixture through "soft" ice cream machines. The principal manufacturer produced both "hard" and "soft" ice cream which was sold from mobile stalls as well as from local shops.

Eight chemical samples from these local producers were satisfactory (Table XIII). All the bacteriological samples from the principal manufacturer were satisfactory but some deliveries of "soft ice cream mixture" to a shop were found unsatisfactory and the results were passed to the Public Health Inspector of the district where the mixture was made. Samples of soft ice cream from a snack bar were unsatisfactory after freezing and the Manager was advised in regard to sterilisation of the machine. At the end of the year, "grade 1" samples were being obtained from these sources.

#### d) Unsound food

Seventy-eight complaints were received of food sold in a stale, mouldy, decomposed or other unsatisfactory condition. A large proportion of these complaints concerned foreign bodies in food, including insects or larvae in canned peas, bread, peaches, apricots, oats, apple pie and pork chops, snail in frozen peas, rivet in a tart, metal stud in a loaf, wire in a sweet, in a biscuit and in tinned fish, crown cork in butter and a staple in a sausage; glass in ice cream, wood in a fruit pie; hair, paper and string in meat products; string and fibre in bread and string in a doughnut.

All the complaints were thoroughly investigated and nineteen of them were reported to the Council, who authorised legal proceedings in eight cases and instructed warning letters to be sent in all but one of the remainder. They also instructed an approach to be made to the Association of Municipal Corporations to ascertain if they had received complaints of inadequate protection of food packed in polythene sachets; a mould growth had been found in an ice lolly so packed and the Council thought the protection insufficient. The Association thought that similar considerations would apply to many forms of packaging and that the vigilance of Public Health Authorities was the best safeguard.



10. FOOD POISONING

Careful enquiries were made to find the causes of the one family outbreak involving three persons and the four sporadic cases of food poisoning that were notified. One case had contracted a Salmonella Oranienburg infection while on holiday abroad. None of the foods causing the illnesses was discovered but in one case there was reason to suspect a turkey eaten two days after cooking.

A tabular statement of the notified cases is set out in Table XV of the Appendix. In addition to the above, 46 employees in a local shop became ill shortly after eating a Christmas lunch in the staff canteen. All but one of these persons had eaten turkey which had been cooked the previous day.

We are indebted to the staff of the Public Health Laboratory in Watford for the help and advice they have so readily given.

11. MERCHANDISE MARKS ACTS, 1887 and 1926

As a Foods and Drugs Authority, the Council is charged with the enforcement of these Acts so far as they relate to foodstuffs. No offences were reported to the Council during the year

12. COMPOSITION OF FOOD AND DRUGS

The report of the Public Analyst, Mr. J. D. Curzon, on the samples submitted for examination during the year 1965 is summarised as follows :-

(i) Routine Samples (171)

a) Foods

Milk and milk products  
Sausages and other meat products  
Ice cream, beverages and sweets  
Flour and cereal foods, vegetables and fats  
Fruits, condiments and well-water

b) Drugs

Antacid Digestant Powder	Liquid Paraffin
Amytal Tablets	Soneryl Tablets
Sodium Amytal Capsules	A. P. C. Tablets
Asprin Tablets	Sodium Amytal Tablets
Ascorbic Acid Tablets	Aminophyllene Tablets
Spirit of Sal Volatile	Whitfields Ointment
Benzylbenzoate application	Oil of Boric Acid
Codeine Compound Tablets	Alum-hydroxide Tablets
Saccharin Tablets	

Dairy fudge contained less than the requisite 4% of butter fat and the vendor (a market trader) was warned that the sweet was incorrectly described.

All the other routine food samples were satisfactory and all the drugs, complied, where applicable, with the British Pharmacopoeia. No trace of lead arsenate was found on apples and pears examined in connection with a survey of pesticide residues made by the Association of Public Analysts.

(ii) Special Samples

An ice lolly in a polythene sachet contained mould filaments. Milk bottles (2) contained mould and dried milk. A dried leaf was found in a sausage roll.

An apple pie contained a crustacean of the wood louse group and foreign matter in a lemon meringue pie proved to be mould.

Minced beef having an unusual pink colour contained sodium nitrite.

Whipping cream, an ice lolly, butter, spam and cooked ox kidney and sheep kidney were found to be normal.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The great majority of the boiler plants in factories and commercial premises in Watford are of modern design and are operated smokelessly.

Excessive smoke has been recorded from the chimneys of four factories and the Peace Memorial Hospital. Although the boiler plant at the hospital is of modern design with automatic controls it is too big for the job it has to perform and therefore demands skilful operation. It has caused a nuisance intermittently since it was installed some nine years ago, particularly during the summer months. The Council have made numerous representations to the Management Committee; the Regional Hospital Board and ultimately the Ministry of Health. The outcome has been the appointment during the year of a Group Superintendent Engineer whose responsibility it will be to see that the plant is operated smokelessly.

Acidic smuts from the chimney at a Government store in Watford have caused a serious nuisance since new oil fired boilers were installed in 1958. Insulation of the stack and modifications to the burners and furnaces failed to abate the nuisance. Following representations by the Council to the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works new oil fired burners were installed to burn a lighter grade oil and this has been effective.

Plastics of one kind or another are now used extensively in hospitals and laboratories. In Watford these are disposed of by burning in incinerators. Representative samples of plastics were submitted to the Public Analyst to find out if noxious fumes were created in the incinerators. A small percentage were found to contain chlorine but the hazard of the fumes was not considered to be of any real significance.

### Prior Approval of New Furnaces.

Whenever there is a proposal to instal new boiler plant the developer is advised to take advantage of the prior approval provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956. Twenty-four were approved during the year.



### Height of Chimneys

Plans were submitted to the Borough Engineer for the erection of 22 chimneys. It was necessary to require the height of six of these to be increased, the diameter of three to be reduced and two steel stacks to be insulated to prevent acidic smut formation. Twelve of the plans referred to premises exempted from the requirements of Section 10 of the Clean Air Act. The developers made application for prior approval of the furnaces and this was granted subject to the Council's requirements concerning the dimensions of the chimneys.

#### 14. ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION RESEARCH

The Council co-operate with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in the National Survey of Atmospheric Pollution by maintaining in the Borough five volumetric gauges for the daily recording of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere.

The gauges are situated in an industrial area; the commercial centre of the town; the Meriden Smoke Control Area and residential districts of high and low population densities.

The domestic and industrial consumption of coal in Watford and the natural ventilation of the town are all classified as of medium level by the Atmospheric Pollution Division of the D.S.I.R.

The tables and graphs in appendix XIX show the average monthly recordings.

#### 15. SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

Having been assured that adequate supplies of smokeless fuels will be available in Watford, the Council decided to resume their smoke control area programme and to ask the Minister to confirm the North Watford Smoke Control Order (No. 4) 1963 to come into operation on 1st November 1965. An objection by one householder in the area to the confirmation of the Order delayed the date of confirmation to 29th April 1965. It was not possible to complete all the firegrate conversions within the six months period; the Council therefore deferred the date of operation of the Order to 1st August 1966.

In June the Council decided to make the Cassiobury estate their fifth smoke control area but deferred making the Order until they were satisfied that the overloading of sub-stations on part of the estate would be rectified by the Eastern Electricity Board. This area covers 970 acres and contains 1631 dwellings, 6 factories, 25 shops and 10 other buildings.

Smoke control orders will be made for improvement areas so that grants can be paid for firegrate conversions at the same time as other standard house improvement works are carried out.

A Council housing estate in the No. 4. Smoke Control Area extends into the Watford Rural District the Council for which, at the request of the Borough Council, agreed to include these houses in a smoke control area.

In accordance with the advice given by the Ministry, the Council decided to install room heaters wherever it is necessary to replace open firegrates in Council houses in smoke control areas. If however, a tenant wishes to install some other approved means of heating in his house he can claim a grant as though his house was privately owned.

Now that the difficulties of fuel supplies have been largely overcome there is reason to believe that uninterrupted progress can be made towards the ultimate goal of making the whole of the Borough smoke-free

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### 16. FACTORIES

There is close co-operation with the Borough Engineer on all plans of new factories or alterations to existing premises which are submitted to the Council for approval. This procedure ensures that the premises will comply with the various legislative requirements before structural work commences.

The items which have concerned the Health Department during the year are the layout and equipment of works canteens, sanitary accommodation, the prior approval of boiler plant, height of chimneys and the prevention of atmospheric pollution and other nuisances; and the storage of petroleum spirit and petroleum mixtures.

#### Factories Acts 1937 and 1959

Certain health provisions of the Act are enforced by the Council; a summary of the work carried out during 1963 will be found in tabular form in the Appendix (Table XIX).

#### Part IV - Special Provisions - Section 54 - Underground Bakehouses

There is only one underground bake house in Watford, at 24 Langley Road, and the Council have renewed the certificate of suitability.

#### Part VIII - Section 110 - Homework

The nature of the work undertaken by the 36 outworkers within the Borough is set out in Table XX.

#### 17. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

The number of premises in Watford registered under the Act at 31st December, 1965 and the number of persons employed therein are as follows :-

	<u>Registered Premises.</u>	<u>Number of Persons employed.</u>
Offices	337	5741
Retail Shops	626	4832
Wholesale shops and Warehouses	35	390
Catering Establishments and Canteens	63	883
Fuel Storage Depots	1	6
	<u>1,062</u>	<u>11,852</u>

(5316 males and 6536 females)

It was necessary to send a substantial number of reminder letters to the occupiers of premises in the various commercial areas of the town who had failed to register their premises.

In considering the above figures it must be borne in mind that many persons are employed in the above classes of business which are not registered by the Local Authority, namely :-

- 1) Businesses in which only the employer's relatives work;
- 2) Businesses in which employees work less than 21 hours per week; and
- 3) Businesses which are registered by the Factory Inspector, e.g., offices in factories, local authority and Government buildings, railway premises etc.

During the year, 270 general inspection of registered premises were made by the Public Health Inspectors and 159 other visits and inspections. Since the main provisions of the Act came into force on 1st August 1964 the number of registered premises which have received general inspections is 743.

A considerable number of infringements were found, most of them being of a minor nature and 206 notices were served requiring the remedying of these.

Thirty-four minor accidents were notified under the Act and most of these were investigated.

A summary of the infringements and an analysis of the accidents are set out in the Appendix

There were no applications for exemptions under the Act and there have been no prosecutions.

### Lighting

At the request of the Ministry of Labour, an investigation was made during the last three months of the year into standards of lighting in registered premises. Fifty-eight different premises were inspected comprising : 40 shops and restaurants; offices in 24 premises; 3 public houses and a warehouse. A full narrative report on the findings was submitted to the Ministry but, in brief, the investigation revealed that in most of the offices the lighting was satisfactory or good; in shops the lighting was generally good in the serving areas, with the exception of cafes, but the lighting was not satisfactory in stock rooms and preparation rooms in several of the shops.

Immediate improvements of lighting were recommended in parts of twelve of the premises inspected. It was suggested that minimum standards should be 20 lumens/sq ft. at working levels and five lumens sq.ft on corridors and staircases, glare was reported in five of the fifty-eight premises surveyed.

A statement in tabular form on the light readings (taken in the month of November) is set out in the Appendix (Table XVIII).

## 18. SHOPS ACT 1950

The Public Health Inspectors are also appointed as Shops Act inspectors. The closing hour provisions of the Act are in many respects unintelligible and are difficult to enforce, particularly so far as trading on Sunday and the half-day holiday is concerned. The Town Clerk wrote to the car dealers in the town concerning the sale of cars on Sundays.

Substantial numbers of shopkeepers have been endeavouring to obtain amendments of the legislation to permit both all-day closing on Monday with trading allowed on the other five days of the week; and six-day trading.



Although an unsuccessful ballot was held in January 1964 with a view to the revocation of the Watford half-day Holiday Order the Council were again requested in February 1965 to conduct another ballot so that shopkeepers could trade on Wednesday afternoons. The ballot was held in May; 974 papers were sent out and 607 returned. Of these, 377 voted for the revocation and 225 against - the necessary majority of shopkeepers was not therefore obtained.

The Managers of four departmental stores in the centre of the town, who were anxious to trade on only five days a week, then asked the Council to make an Order exempting them from the Half-day Closing Order. They contended that they were a separate class of shop but the Council would not accept this.

In September, the Management of one of the large stores who wished to trade on six days a week conducted their own referendum in the central area of the town. 289 of the 354 retailers who were circularised replied and of these 186 voted in favour of the revocation of the Order and 100 voted against. On the strength of this return, a formal request was submitted to the Council to make Exemption Orders covering 26 individual trade classes shown by the referendum to be in favour of exemption - including "mixed shops" as a class of trade.

The Town Clerk was instructed to conduct a ballot of the various classes of shops in the central area and for this purpose a "mixed shop" be regarded as a class of trade and that it be defined as "a shop in which two or more trades or businesses are carried on as principal trades or businesses of the occupier of that shop".

The Shops (Early Closing Days) Act 1965 came into force on 5th November, 1965. This enables a shopkeeper to choose whichever day he wishes as his early closing day each week. There was a failure on the part of traders to display the prescribed notices which added to the confusion of the shopping public. They were warned by the Council that any failure to comply with the Act would lead to prosecution.

The officials have spent a considerable amount of time in various attempts to establish an orderly pattern of retail trading in the town but, unfortunately, these have proved to be abortive.

The Government White Paper on Retail Trading of Shops gives hope that it is their intention to "grasp the nettle" and introduce legislation radically amending the present outdated Shops Act.

#### 19. PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS 1928 & 1936

The Chief Public Health Inspector is appointed by the Council as authorised officer for the purposes of these Acts.

158 premises are licensed for the storage of 685,700 gallons of petroleum spirits and petroleum mixtures. Two licences were granted for the storage of 1224 lbs. of carbide of calcium.

I have drawn attention in previous annual reports to the inadequacies of the present legislation. There has been a vast expansion in the quantities and varieties of petroleum spirits and mixtures kept on premises since the existing legislation was introduced. In particular, there are some 200,000 gallons of low flash-point spirit ink solvents in the printing and printing ink factories in Watford that are not petroleum mixtures as defined in the Acts. Nevertheless, they are no less hazardous and the factory managements have agreed to keep them in accordance with the Council's conditions.

During the year, 223 inspections were made of licensed premises and 29 old and 26 new underground tanks were tested.

The Council granted authority for the service of two notices under Section 73 of the Public Health Act 1961 concerning derelict petrol tanks.



The Council's conditions dealing with filling stations were amended to permit deliveries of petrol between sunset and sunrise.

20. SWIMMING BATHS

There is one enclosed public swimming bath in Watford, together with a learners pool, and open air swimming baths at three schools. Bacteriological samples taken from these pools were satisfactory

21. NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

Investigations have been made into several complaints concerning noise nuisances. Wherever these were considered to be justified formal action was taken to secure an improvement. The Council authorised the service of one Statutory Notice where the neighbourhood was disturbed by the barking during the night of a guard dog.

The Borough Engineer requires contractors who are engaged on road works to use pneumatic drills which are muffled.

The Council co-operated with adjoining local authorities in the purchase of an efficient sound level meter.

22. RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT 1951

Seven premises in Watford are registered for upholstery work under the Act. It has not been necessary to report any infringement of the Act to the Council during the year.

23. PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

The Public Health Inspectors are appointed officers under Section 4 of the Act. Twelve persons are licensed to keep pet shops within the Borough and these have been conducted satisfactorily.

24. ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

This Act provides for the licensing of boarding establishments for animals and inspection of the establishments by the Borough Council. Three establishments have been licensed; no offences have been reported.

25. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

The Council continue to provide a free service for the destruction of rats and mice on domestic premises. Rodents on commercial and industrial premises and wasps nests on occupied premises are dealt with on payment of a fee which for wasps nests is 10/-.

The operator, with the assistance of sewermen, carried out baiting of those sewers which have been found in the past to be rat-infested. The remaining sewers are tested on a three-year cycle and those due for test this year were also baited. Slight evidence of reinfestation was found in the older sewers and baiting continued until no further bait was taken.

Table XXI sets out details of rat and mice infestations treated during the year. 227 wasp nests were destroyed.

APPENDIX

RECORDS OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS 1962

TABLE 1.

Houses

Public Health Act (disrepair)	316
Housing Act	715
Overcrowding	333
Improvement Grants	243
Movable dwellings	51

Places of work

Power factories	31
Non-power factories	2
Building sites, etc.	1
Outworkers	3
Shops Act. 1950	638

Office, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

a) General Inspections :

1) Offices	111
2) Retail Shops	139
3) Wholesale shops, Warehouses	12
4) Catering establishments & Canteens	8

b) Other Inspection visits 159

Food

Food Inspection	288
Slaughterhouses	1,446
Food factories	33
Dairies	3
Ice-cream premises	19
Restaurants, canteens, public houses	236
Retail food shops	167
Public market	30
Mobile shops, stalls	16
Other food premises	24
Food (adulteration) samples	134
Food (bacteriological) samples	97

Air

D. S. I. R. Instruments	178
Industrial Smoke Control	237
Smoke Control Areas	546

Public Health Act

Drainage	608
Refuse	67
Insect Pests	45
Conveniences	22
Nuisances	488
Infectious disease	237
Schools	8
Swimming Pools	2

Other Acts

Home Counties (Music and Dancing) Act	12
Pests Act	55
Pet Animals Act	19
Petroleum Acts	223
Rag Flock, etc. Act	1
Consumer Protection Act	1

Miscellaneous

Interviews	327
Attendance at Court	23
Lectures	13
Unclassified Visits	313
Water samples	30
	<u>8,710</u>

For comparison purposes, the classification of the inspections made during 1964 and 1965 is shown on the following table :-

TABLE II

Purpose	Total Visits		Change + or -
	1964	1965	
Housing	1430	1658	+ 228
Places of work	1020	1104	+ 84
Food	3468	2493	- 975
Clean Air	803	961	+ 158
General	3485	2494	- 991
	10,206	8,710	- 1,496

HOUSING

TABLE III

The Borough Engineer and Borough Treasurer have kindly supplied the following information :-

- a) Number of new dwellings erected by the Council during 1965 - 163
- b) Number of new houses erected by private enterprise 1965 - 103
- c) Total number of dwellings built by the Council since 1945 - 4,184
- d) Total number of houses built by private enterprise since 1945 - 2,678
- e) Number of Council houses occupied on 31st December, 1965 - 5,959

Plus 89 Prefabricated bungalows



# HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND OTHER UNFIT HOUSES

TABLE V.

A. <u>HOUSES DEMOLISHED</u>  IN CLEARANCE AREAS	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
1. Houses unfit for human habitation	3	Nil	Nil
2. Houses unfit- bad arrangement	-	-	-
NOT IN CLEARANCE AREAS			
4. As a result of formal procedure under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act 1957	3	10	3
5. Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	1	2	1
B. <u>UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED</u>			
8. Under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act 1957	1	Nil	Nil
10. Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 of the Housing Act 1957.	Nil	Nil	Nil

C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED		
	By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by Local Authority.	66	-
(12) After formal Notice under :		
(a) Public Health Acts	8	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act 1957	9	5

COMPULSORY IMPROVEMENT OF DWELLINGS  
TO PROVIDE STANDARD AMENITIES

TABLE VI.

1. Area Improvement.	<p>Areas declared</p> <p>Containing : total dwellings</p> <p>Improvable dwellings (owner/occupier &amp; tenanted)</p> <p>Tenanted improvable dwellings</p> <p>Preliminary Notices served proposing improvement to : full standard</p> <p>reduced standard</p> <p>Undertakings given</p> <p>Improvement Notices served : Immediate</p> <p>Suspended</p> <p>Final</p> <p>Appeals under Section 27</p> <p>Notices withdrawn : Immediate</p> <p>Suspended</p> <p>Final</p> <p>Improvement Works completed</p>	<p>2</p> <p>192</p> <p>144</p> <p>98</p> <p>97</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>2</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>45</p> <p>3</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>Nil</p> <p>3</p>
2. Improvement of dwellings outside Improvement Areas.	Nil	
3. Improvement of dwellings in tenement blocks.	Nil	
4. Enforcement	Nil	
5. Purchase Notices.	Nil	

Types of Food premises within the Borough at 1st January, 1965.

TABLE VII

Retail Food Shops	428
Hotels and Public Houses	52
Cafes and Restaurants	68
Industrial and Commercial Canteens	71
School Canteens	35
Clubs	8
Bakehouses	13
Wholesale Food Merchants	10
Food Factories	5
Public Market	1
Slaughterhouses	2
All these premises comply with regulations 16 & 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, where applicable	

Food Premises Registered by the Council

1. Under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act 1955

Ice Cream Manufacturers	3
Ice Cream Dealers	198
Preserved Food Manufacturers	53

2. Article 8 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959

Dairies	1
---------	---

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963

The Council has granted one dealer's licence to pasteurise milk and one dealer's licence to sterilise milk at a dairy. Licences for the sale of milk under the above Regulations were held as follows :-

Designated Milk	Dealers Licence
Untreated Milk	3
Pasteurised Milk	40
Sterilised Milk	26



MEAT AND OFFAL REJECTED AT SLAUGHTERHOUSES AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION  
DURING 1965

TABLE VIII

	<u>lbs</u>
Beef (including 18 carcasses)	8,166
Lamb (including 26 carcasses)	1,262
Pork (including 222 carcasses)	21,901
Veal (including 144 carcasses)	5,190
 <u>Offal from bovines</u>	
201 Heads	6,030
167 Tongues	835
1,321 Lungs	13,210
328 Hearts	1,860
3,643 Livers and 418 Part Livers	56,457
86 Spleens	172
91 Skirts	182
32 Tails	64
 <u>Offal from pigs</u>	
3,073 Plucks	15,211
7,515 Livers	15,030
14,214 Lungs	28,428
443 Heads	5,353
832 Other Organs	426
 <u>Offal from sheep</u>	
64 Plucks	256
619 Livers	1,097
936 Lungs	1,969
24 Heads	141
22 Other Organs	22
 <u>Offal from calves</u>	
137 Heads	870
148 Plucks	592
60 Other Organs	60

Total Weight rejected as unfit for human consumption, 66 tons 4 cwt. 53 lbs.

INCIDENCE OF DISEASE IN ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED IN WATFORD DURING 1965

TABLE IX

	Cattle Excl'dg. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	11,004	339	11,406	10,636	91,884
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	15	144	26	222
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4,724	162	82	1,682	21,924
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	43.0	52.2	2.0	16.1	24.1
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	9	-	-	-	75
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.08	-	-	-	0.08
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases in which cysticercosis was found	209	2	-	-	-

TABLE IX (Continued)

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	209	2	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	149	1	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

For comparison purposes, the percentage of the animals found to be diseased during the past ten years are set out below :-

TABLE X

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calvesx	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Percentage of the Number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis					
1956	36.3.	31.0	0.4	6.6	9.1
1957	32.9	27.7	2.5	2.5	8.9
1958	29.4	33.9	2.0	9.5	9.7
1959	42.9	37.3	1.1	20.0	8.7
1960	36.4	33.4	1.8	3.7	10.7
1961	28.1	35.2	1.3	2.7	9.4
1962	29.4	38.1	1.5	5.5	13.3
1963	22.9	30.2	0.8	7.4	19.8
1964	21.3	22.3	0.9	9.3	15.7
1965	43.0	52.2	2.0	16.1	24.1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis					
1956	6.2	20.4	-	-	1.1
1957	4.5	14.6	-	-	1.2
1958	4.9	13.6	-	-	1.0
1959	3.0	8.1	0.3	-	0.9
1960	0.9	0.5	-	-	0.8
1961	0.5	3.4	-	-	0.2
1962	0.3	0.4	-	-	0.2
1963	0.09	-	-	-	0.3
1964	0.06	-	-	-	0.05
1965	0.08	-	-	-	0.08



LOCATION AND NATURE OF CYSTICERCUS BOVIS INFECTIONS

TABLE XI

211 cases of cysticercus bovis were discovered in the 11,343 cattle slaughtered in Watford. This gives an incidence rate of 1.86. The locations of the cysts are shown in the following Table :-

	Head	Heart	Skirt	Other
Viable Cysts	27	21	2	-
Degenerate Cysts	102	96	12	1

The cysts in 45 cases 21.3% were viable indicating that the infections were of recent origin

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES OF MILK - TABLE XII

Pasteurised	Sterilised	Untreated
33	5	2

ICE CREAM SAMPLES - TABLE XIII

Bacteriological Samples,

Satisfactory	Grades 1 and 2	27
Unsatisfactory	Grades 3 and 4	12

69% of the samples were satisfactory.

Chemical Samples

The statutory minimum content for ice-cream is 5 per cent fat. Artificial sweetners are prohibited.

Sample Number	Fat Content	Milk Solids
1	8.3	13.0
2	8.3	11.9
3	12.0	11.0
4	10.8	15.2
5	7.8	15.2
6	10.3	15.6
7	8.0	11.6
8	7.5	11.7

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IN RESPECT OF THE PREPARATION OR SALE

OF FOOD

TABLE XIV.

No.	Section.	Alleged Offence	Result	Finex	Costs payable by Defendant	Remarks
1.	13	Restaurant - 17 offences against Food Hygiene Regulations	Conviction	£85	£8. 8. 0d	
2.	2	Sale of mouldy sausage rolls	Conviction	£10	£2. 2. 0d	
3.	2	Sale of cake containing paper	Conviction	£10	£3. 3. 0d	
4.	2	Sale of sour swiss roll	Conviction	£10	-	
5.	2	Sale of mouldy swiss rolls	Conviction	£15	£6. 6. 0d	
6.	2	Sale of stinking chicken	Conviction	£10	£8. 8. 0d	
7.	2	Sale of mouldy meat pie	Conviction	£10	£8. 8. 0d	
8.		Exposure for sale of unfit chickens	Dismissed	-	-	
9.	2	Sale of mouldy meat pie	Conviction	£10	£3. 3. 0d	
10.	2	Sale of mouldy sausage roll	Dismissed	-	-	
						)The Defendant Company )charged their respective )Managers with these offences

# FOOD POISONING

TABLE XV

	No.	Number of Cases.		Deaths	Severity of illness	Organism responsible	Food suspected
		Notified	otherwise ascertained				
Family outbreaks	1	3	Nil	Nil	Severe	Not identified	unknown
Other outbreaks	-	-	Nil	Nil	-	-	-
* Single Cases	1 2 1	1 2 1	Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil	Moderate 1. Severe 2. Mild Severe	Salm. Oranienburg Salm. Typhi-murium Salm. Heidelberg	unknown 1. Turkey 2 unknown unknown

\* Infection contracted while on holiday abroad.



Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

TABLE XVI

Infringements of Act in 270 Premises Inspected During 1965.

Uncleanly condition of premises or furnishings	21
Overcrowding	8
Inadequate provision for maintaining reasonable temperature	24
No thermometer	121
Inadequate light or ventilation	57
Insufficient sanitary conveniences or washing facilities	11
Inadequate hot water, clean towels, etc. for hand washing	56
Inadequate supply of drinking water	3
Inadequate provision for accommodating clothing	3
Defective condition of floors or stairs	45
Inadequate fencing of dangerous parts of machinery	19
Suitable or sufficient sitting facilities not provided	5
Inadequate facilities for eating meals	1
Inadequate first aid equipment	115
Names of persons trained in first aid was not displayed	1
Failure to display prescribed abstract of the Act	119
Other matters	11
	<hr/>
	659

TABLE XVII

Analysis of Causes of Accidents notified during 1965

Machinery	3
Falls of persons	7
Stepping on or striking against object or person	4
Handling goods	4
Struck by falling object	3
Fires and explosions	6
Not otherwise specified	5
	<hr/>
	34

## TABLE XVIII

LIGHTING IN SHOPS AND OFFICESPREMISES INSPECTED DURING NOVEMBER, 1965(1) Analysis of light readings in offices at working plane.

Number of office premises	Number of measurements	Lighting in lumens per sq. foot.				
		(a) 0-4	(b) 5-9	(c) 10-14	(d) 15-34	(e) 25 & over
24	100	-	11	14	34	41

(2) Standards of lighting in working areas etc. of shops compared with selling areas.

Table showing standards of lighting in the selling areas of shops, with the number of shops in each category, together with the standards in the working areas of these shops. Readings in lumens per square foot.

No. of Shops	<u>Selling areas</u> - Range of readings.	<u>Working areas</u> - range of readings in corresponding shops					
		25 or over	10 - 25+	4-25+	2-20	8-15	2-10
14	25 or over	6	5	1	1		1
7	10 - 25+		3	4			
2	4 - 25+		2				
2	5 - 20		1			1	
2	8 - 15		2				
3	10 or less	1			1	1	
30	Totals	7	13	5	2	2	1

VOLUMETRIC CONCENTRATION OF SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE IN THE ATMOSPHERE

1 9 6 5

Average Daily Concentration Expressed in Micrograms per Cubic Metre.

TABLE XIX

Month	Industrial Area (Lower High Street)		Commercial Area (Town Centre)		High Density Residential Area (Alexandra School)		Low Density Residential Area (Langley Road)		Smoke Control Area No. 1. (Meriden Estate)	
	Smoke	Sulphur Dioxide	Smoke	Sulphur Dioxide	Smoke	Sulphur Dioxide	Smoke	Sulphur Dioxide	Smoke	Sulphur Dioxide
January	103	320	106	168	132	181	84	142	78	152
February	104	273	106	177	155	216	97	150	80	165
March	85	252	79	203	139	215	80	167	71	148
April	43	124	42	83	64	98	30	84	41	99
May	31	97	25	69	35	77	17	45	23	71
June	25	100	17	58	23	57	15	45	23	43
July	19	67	14	39	16	39	12	32	13	43
August	25	72	24	57	24	50	20	44	22	48
September	44	87	42	83	57	89	35	62	44	80
October	76	162	85	139	105	164	92	142	63	99
November	76	240	70	130	119	163	74	114	62	113
December	80	171	84	130	109	150	68	109	75	102

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959

TABLE XX

	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sec tions 1,2, 3, 4 & 6 are enforced by Local Authorities	31	2	-	-
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	376	31	2	-
Other premises in which Sect ion 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	20	1	-	-
Total	427	34	2	-



Atmospheric Smoke Concentration 1965/in micrograms per cu. metre





Atmospheric Sulphur Dioxide Concentration 1965/in micrograms per cu. metre

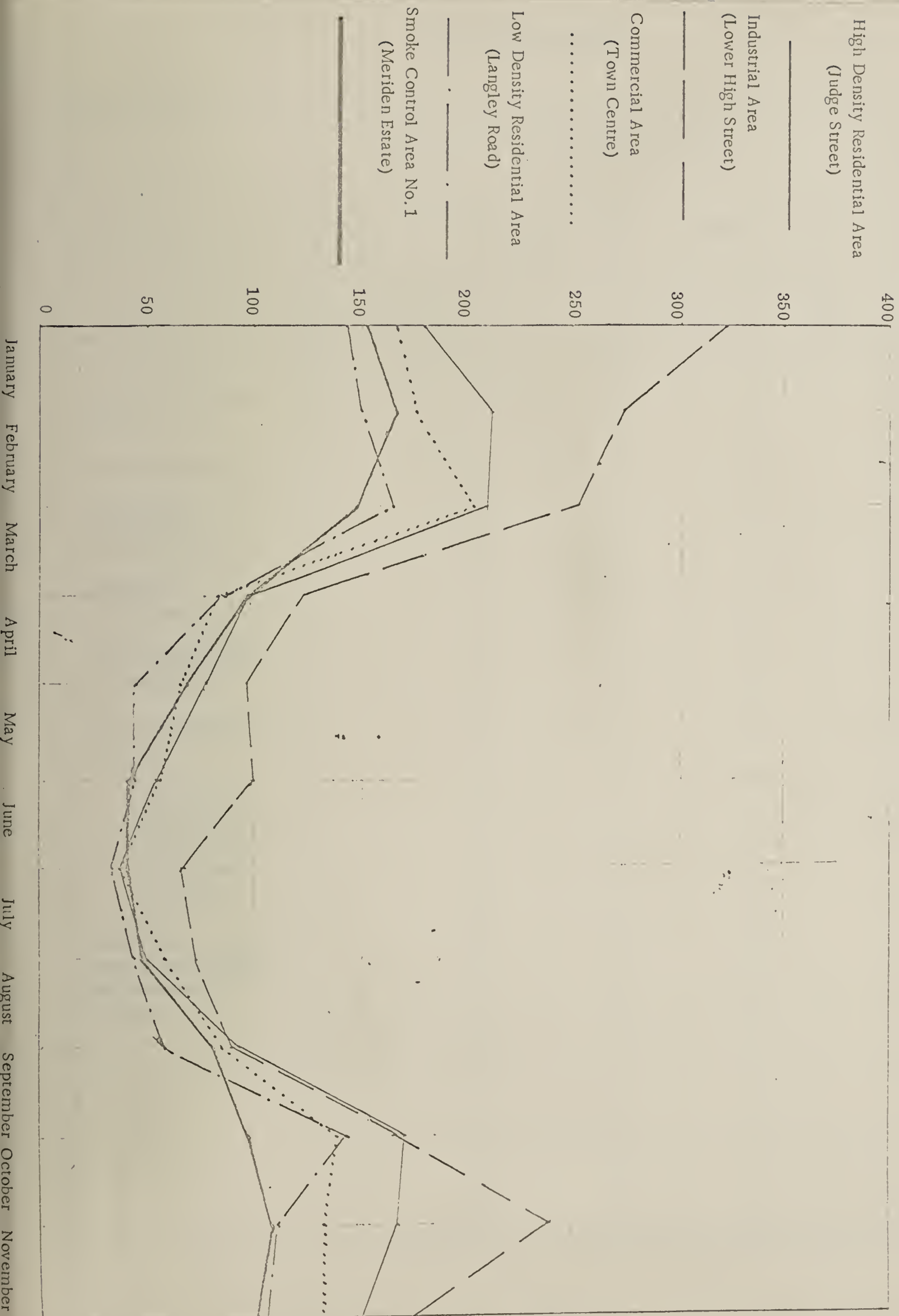






TABLE XX (Continued)

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H. M. F. I.	By H. M. F. I.	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1. )	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S. 2. )	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3. )	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4. )	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6. )	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7. ) :-					
a) Insufficient	1	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or Defective	1	-	-	-	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
	2	-	-	-	-

TABLE XX (Continued)

PART VIII - OUTWORK (SECTIONS 110 & 111)

Nature of work	No. of Out-workers as required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.
Wearing apparel- making and alteration	8	-	-
Stuffed toys	1	-	-
Brush making	1	-	-
Carding of buttons	17	-	-
Labelling and bottling of tablets	7	1	-
Cosaques, Christmas Stockings, etc.	2	-	-
	36	1	-

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

TABLE XXI

REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING, 31st DECEMBER, 1965

	Local Authority	Dwelling House	All other (inc. business premises)	Total
1. No. of Properties	68	24,369	4257	28,694
2. No. of infested premises treated by L. A.				
Rats:-	1	339	35	375
Mice:-	-	49	15	64
3. No. of block treatments	-	2	-	2





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